

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 7 1979
DATE ENTERED	SEP 14 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Judson Moss Bemis House

AND/OR COMMON

Hearthstone Inn

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

506 North Cascade Ave.

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Colorado Springs

___ VICINITY OF

5

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

El Paso

CODE

041

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Ms. Dot Williams

STREET & NUMBER

11555 Howells Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Colorado Springs

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

El Paso County Clerk and Recorder

STREET & NUMBER

27 East Vermijo Street

CITY, TOWN

Colorado Springs

STATE

Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (#21/04/0046)

DATE

Ongoing

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society; 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bemis House at 506 North Cascade was built in a neighborhood of substantial homes in Colorado Springs in 1885 from plans by Architect W. F. Ellis. An excellent example of the late Victorian era, it is essentially "Queen Anne" in style, yet incorporates elements of the previous era's "Stick Style," while tending in some details toward the classicizing "Federal" or "Colonial" style soon to follow. The original three story building had 10 rooms and a partial basement, measured 62 by 56 feet, and was designed, typically, from the inside out. The room and fireplace arrangements determined the roof shape and exterior forms, characteristically irregular and romantic. Shortly after completion, additions in 1886 and 1887 completed the present structure, which has remained essentially unchanged for more than 90 years, except for an unsympathetic but not fatal conversion to 10 apartments in 1935 by Architects MacLaren and Thomas.

Cut random ashlar masonry walls form the foundations on the rear-sloping site, and a wood frame structure bears cedar clapboard siding on the first floor. Fancy-cut cedar shingles form the siding on the second floor and on the gables and dormers of the third floor. A Helm-roof with projecting gable tops the semi-octagon of the dining room and superposed bedroom on the south side, and an oriel window graces the major pedimental gable fronting east, the principal facade. These gables on an otherwise steep hipped roof are trimmed with ornamental raking bargeboards, hammerbeams, and console brackets, complementing in scale and intricacy the brick chimney tops and the multi-paned upper sash lights of the double hung windows of the upper stories. Lower, however, the boxed eaves of the porch are treated as a classical architrave with dentils, ogee moldings, and console brackets atop modified unfluted Doric wood columns, with entasis. The windows of the main floor are similarly restrained, with single pane upper and lower sash, and plain side and top moldings. But extravagance returns in the double-S carved slip sills, and in the maze-paneling and intricate moldings of the front door, original, as are nearly all parts of the building. The sheltering and spacious porch wrapped around the east and south front and side is approached directly on the centerline of the house from Cascade and mounted by three low risers. Entry is into a typical spacious Queen Anne stair hall, top-lighted by a skylight, and from which are entered the public rooms, now restored to a state of antique elegance.

Renovation and restoration work by Architects William Odum of Dallas, and Al Feinstein of Colorado Springs, involved removal of casual accretions, repair and painting of the exterior in appropriate Victorian color, and internal adjustments consonant with the current use as an inn while exposing the remaining original interiors, complementing them with period furnishings.

The trebiated treatment of the three stories, in terms of their texture, scale, and detail is typical of the Stick Style as well as the Queen Anne style, finding its origins in the Renaissance palaces of Florence. H. H. Richardson of Boston is also a father of this style, and of the blending of styles, in his work immediately prior to the date of construction of the Bemis House, and many of the details of interior and exterior are to be found in the Pattern Books published in this period.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1885-present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joseph Dozier/W. F. Ellis, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bemis House is significant as a fine example of the best architectural work of its period and locale. It demonstrates the exuberance and self-confidence of the Queen Anne style, yet shows both the conservatism of the older Stick Style and the restraint and greater historicism of the later Colonial Revival style. Perhaps more innocent than its contemporaries elsewhere, it is also more hopeful than they might be in the post-Civil War period in other parts of the country. Pragmatic planning, exuberant but rational detailing, and assertive form-making are demonstrated in a highly responsive dwelling, attentive to the particular needs of its owners for light, air, and comfortable, elegant public entertainment rooms. The house is also quite significant in the community, having housed persons singularly important to the community.

Judson Moss Bemis built this house for his wife, Alice Cogswell Bemis after they moved to Colorado Springs for her health in 1881. Bemis, founder of the J. M. Bemis Company now of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts in 1831. He moved west, first to Chicago, then to St. Louis, where he established a plant producing cloth containers and bags for local millers and the Army Quartermaster Corps. Mrs. Bemis, who perhaps had tuberculosis, made the house on North Cascade her permanent residence, though he lived there only two or three months of the year, the rest of the time tending his business interests from offices in Boston. Despite frequent absence, Bemis was an active participant in the community. An early trustee of Colorado College, he donated funds for Jackson and Bemis Halls, and founded the school of Business Administration and Banking.

The Bemis's daughter, Alice Bemis Taylor, also a significant philanthropist, lived in the house on Cascade in her youth. Particularly interested in education, and in child care and understanding, Mrs. Taylor donated heavily in the 1920s and 1930s to support Colorado College, became its first woman trustee, and founded the Bemis-Taylor Child Guidance Clinic. She supported various scholarships, helped to support the Geology Department, and left a large portion of her rare book collection to the school. Taylor Hall is named to honor her. She also provided funds in 1921 for the construction of the Day Care Center building, an organization established in 1897 by her mother to care for the children of working mothers.

During the depression, Mrs. Taylor made a major contribution to the city in the form of the donation of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center which opened in 1936. It housed her extensive collection of Mexican Art objects, and was inaugurated with performances the first year by violinist Albert Spaulding, and by dancer Martha Graham.

Both local history and national architectural history are well served by the preservation of this significant Victorian house, essentially intact and vital.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one-half acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Colorado Springs

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 13 51152310 42989610

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 11 and 12 inclusive, Block F, Beverly Resub Addition
Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William Thomas Odum/Architect

ORGANIZATION

Architect William Thomas Odum

DATE

March 9, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3141 Hood Street, Suite 204

TELEPHONE

214-522-0662

CITY OR TOWN

Dallas

STATE

Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Luther C. Janssen

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

July 30, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9.14.79

ATTEST:

William H. Bradman
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

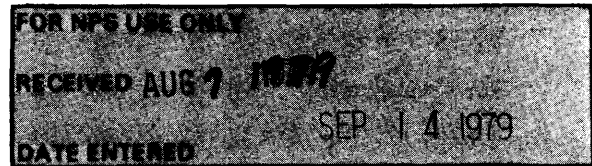
DATE

9.11.79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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Major Bibliographical

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